

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing a general purpose computing platform at a router on a network, comprising:

5 configuring a virtual machine on a router with a plurality of parameters;

receiving logic from a remote site at the virtual machine; and

10 verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration.

15 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises allocating a processing resource operable to execute the logic on the virtual machine.

20 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein:  
configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises allocating a processing resource operable to execute the logic on the virtual machine; and  
25 verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration comprises determining whether the processing resource is available to execute the logic.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises assigning a plurality of authorized credentials to the virtual machine.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein:

configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises assigning a plurality of authorized credentials to the virtual machine;

5 receiving the logic from the remote site at the virtual machine comprises determining an address associated with the remote site; and

10 verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration comprises:

retrieving logic credentials for the logic from the remote site using the determined address; and

15 comparing the authorized credentials with the logic credentials.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the virtual machine.

062891.0566

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein:

configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the virtual machine;

5 receiving the logic from the remote site at the virtual machine comprises determining an address associated with the remote site; and

10 verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration comprises:

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic from the remote site using the determined address; and

15 altering the first lifecycle policy if the second lifecycle policy includes different constraints than the first lifecycle policy.

20 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein receiving the logic from the remote site at the virtual machine comprises:

determining an address associated with the remote site; and

25 retrieving a manifest for the logic from the remote site using the determined address, the manifest including a configurable object needed to execute the logic on the virtual machine.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein:

configuring the virtual machine on the router with the parameters comprises provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the virtual machine;

5 receiving the logic from the remote site at the virtual machine comprises:

determining an address associated with the remote site; and

10 retrieving a manifest for the logic from the remote site using the determined address, the manifest including a configurable object needed to execute the logic on the virtual machine; and

15 verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration comprises:

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic from the remote site using the determined address; and

20 updating the logic if the second lifecycle policy includes a new version of the configurable object.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the virtual machine comprises a virtual interface including an address.

25

11. The method of Claim 1, wherein the virtual machine comprises a virtual service including a plurality of addresses.

12. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
loading default configuration parameters for the  
router; and

receiving a provisioning message to configure the  
5 virtual machine on the router.

0986479-0240  
T04230" 36249860

13. A method for providing a general purpose computing platform at a router on a network, comprising:

configuring a virtual machine on a router with a plurality of parameters, the parameters including a plurality of authorized credentials;

determining an address associated with a remote site;

retrieving logic and logic credentials from the remote site using the determined address; and

comparing the authorized credentials with the logic credentials to verify that the virtual machine may host the logic.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein the parameters include a processing resource allocated to execute the logic on the virtual machine and further comprising determining whether the processing resource is available to execute the logic to verify that the virtual machine may host the logic.

15. The method of Claim 13, wherein the parameters include a first lifecycle policy and further comprising:

determining an address associated with the remote site;

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic from the remote site using the determined address; and

updating a version of the logic on the virtual machine based on the second lifecycle policy.



18. A router comprising:

a processor; and

a virtual machine coupled to the processor, the  
virtual machine configured to host logic acquired from a  
remote site and operable to verify whether the processor  
may execute the acquired logic.

19. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual  
machine is further operable to generate a plurality of  
authorized credentials.

20. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual  
machine is further operable to:

generate a plurality of authorized credentials;

retrieve logic credentials for the logic by  
determining an address associated with the remote site;  
and

compare the logic credentials with the authorized  
credentials to verify that the processor may execute the  
acquired logic.

21. The router of Claim 18, further comprising the  
virtual machine operable to allocate the processor to  
execute the logic.

22. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual  
machine is further operable to:

allocate the processor to execute the logic; and

determine if the processor is available to execute  
the logic.



23. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual machine is further operable to:

provision a first lifecycle policy;

5 retrieve a second lifecycle policy for the logic by  
determining an address associated with the remote site;  
and

alter the first lifecycle policy if the second lifecycle policy includes different constraints than the first lifecycle policy.

10

24. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual machine is further operable to:

provision a first lifecycle policy;

15 retrieve a second lifecycle policy for the logic by  
determining an address associated with the remote site;  
and

update a version of the logic based on the second lifecycle policy.

20

25. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual interface is further operable to:

provision a first lifecycle policy;

25 retrieve a second lifecycle policy for the acquired  
logic by determining an address associated with the  
remote site; and

execute the logic based on usage criteria included in the second lifecycle policy.

26. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual interface is further operable to:

provision a first lifecycle policy;

5 retrieve a second lifecycle policy for the acquired logic by determining an address associated with the remote site; and

determine if the logic is accessible by a remote service based on the second lifecycle policy.

10 27. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual machine is further operable to:

provision a first lifecycle policy;

15 retrieve a second lifecycle policy for the acquired logic by determining an address associated with the remote site;

retrieve a manifest for the logic based on the address, the manifest including a configurable object needed to execute the logic on the virtual machine; and

20 update the logic if the second lifecycle policy includes a new version of the configurable object.

28. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual machine comprises a virtual interface including an address.

25

29. The router of Claim 18, wherein the virtual machine comprises a virtual service accessible from one or more addresses.

30. Logic encoded in media for providing a general purpose computing platform at a router on network, the logic operable to perform the following steps:

5 configuring a virtual machine on a router with a plurality of parameters;

receiving logic from a remote site at the virtual machine; and

10 verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration.

31. The logic of Claim 30, further comprising:

allocating a processing resource operable to execute the logic on the virtual machine; and

15 determining whether the processing resource is available to execute the logic.

32. The logic of Claim 30, further comprising:

20 assigning a plurality of authorized credentials to the virtual machine;

determining an address associated with the remote site;

retrieving logic credentials for the logic from the remote site based on the determined address; and

25 comparing the authorized credentials with the logic credentials.

33. The logic of Claim 30, further comprising:  
provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the  
virtual machine;

5 determining an address associated with the remote  
site;

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic  
from the remote site based on the determine address; and

updating a version of the logic on the virtual  
machine based the second lifecycle policy.

10

34. The logic of Claim 30, further comprising:  
provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the  
virtual machine;

15 determining an address associated with the remote  
site;

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic  
from the remote site based on the determined address; and

executing the logic based on usage criteria included  
in the second lifecycle policy.

20

35. The logic of Claim 30, further comprising:  
provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the  
virtual machine;

25 determining an address associated with the remote  
site;

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic  
from the remote site based on the determined address; and

30 determining if the logic on the virtual machine is  
accessible by a remote service based on the second  
lifecycle policy.

36. The logic of Claim 30, further comprising:  
provisioning a first lifecycle policy for the  
virtual machine;

5 determining an address associated with the remote  
site;

retrieving a second lifecycle policy for the logic  
from the remote site based on the determined address;

receiving a manifest for the logic from the remote  
logic; and

10 updating the logic if the second lifecycle policy  
includes a new version of a configurable object.

062891.0566

37. An apparatus for providing a general purpose computing platform at a router on a network, comprising:

means for configuring a virtual machine on a router with a plurality of parameters;

5 means for receiving logic from a remote site at the virtual machine; and

means for verifying that the virtual machine may host the logic based on the parameters created during configuration.

10

38. The apparatus of Claim 37, further comprising:

means for assigning a plurality of authorized credentials to the virtual machine;

15 means for determining an address associated with the remote site;

means for retrieving logic credentials for the logic from the remote site based on the determined address; and

means for comparing the authorized credentials with the logic credentials.

20

39. The apparatus of Claim 37, further comprising:

means for allocating a processing resource operable to execute the logic on the virtual machine; and

25 means for determining whether the processing resource is available to execute the logic.